

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS

1. A pre-pit detecting apparatus in which recording control information, for use of recording control upon recording record information on a recording medium, is recorded in advance by forming pre-pits, the apparatus comprising: a light beam applying device for applying a first light beam having first power and a second light beam having second power different from the first power to the pre-pits on a time-shared basis according to the record information when recording the recording information on the recording medium; a read signal generating device for generating read signals from electrical signals according to the amounts of reflected light of the respective beams; and a pre-pit signal detecting device for inputting the generated read signal and detecting a pre-pit signal from the input read signal, wherein

said pre-pit signal detecting device detects a pre-pit signal from only the read signals input during the period of applying of the second light beam.

2. The pre-pit detecting apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the first power is higher than the second power.

3. A pre-pit detecting apparatus in which recording control information, for use of recording control upon recording record information on a recording medium, is recorded in advance by forming pre-pits, the apparatus comprising: a light beam applying device for applying a first light beam having first power and a second light beam having second power different from the first power to the pre-pits on a

time-shared basis according to the record information when recording the recording information on the recording medium; a read signal generating device for generating read signals from electrical signals according to the amounts of reflected light of the respective beams; and a sample hold
5 circuit for inputting the generated read signal and holding the input read signal at a predetermined timing, wherein

said sample hold circuit outputs, during the period of applying of the second light beam, the read signals input during the period while holding the same, and outputs, during the period of applying of the first
10 light beam, the read signals held during the applying of the second light beam.

4. The pre-pit detecting apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the first power is higher than the second power.
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